

opc Bulletin

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY • SEPTEMBER 2004

Richard Stolley Takes the Gavel at OPC

By John Boldrick

Despite a violent summer thunderstorm, 30 members of the OPC welcomed their new leadership August 11 at the annual meeting at Club Quarters in New York. Outgoing President Alexis Gelber greeted the assembled and thanked them for showing up despite a sky that looked "like something from the Wizard of Oz."

Peter Cullum, chair of the Committee of the Judges of Election, announced that Richard Stolley, Senior Editorial Advisor of Time, Inc. was elected president of the OPC. Other members of the Committee that spent the afternoon counting the 146 ballots were Michel Lambert of Quebec Government House and Linda Porto of ABC Television Sales.

Other officers elected were:

First Vice President: Marshall Loeb, Senior Correspondent and Advisory Board member of CBS MarketWatch.com and a commentator on CBS Radio Network

Second Vice President: Michael Serrill, senior editor/international at *BusinessWeek*



Alexis Gelber and Richard Stolley

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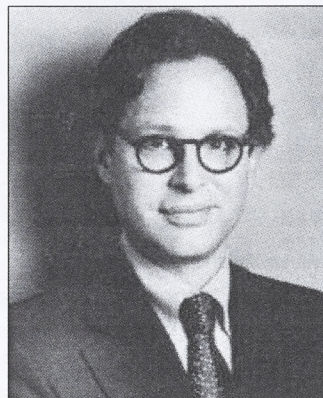
Thomas Crampton, reporter at *The New York Times*

Jacqueline Albert-Simon, U.S. bureau chief of *Politique Internationale*

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OPC Panel to Address Editing News After 9/11

In the three years since the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001, journalists reporting from abroad have faced sinister new dangers, and their editors have been challenged in new ways. Paul Klebnikov, editor of *Forbes Russia*, was shot to death on a Moscow street. In search of an exclusive interview in Pakistan, *The Wall Street Journal's* Danny Pearl was lured into a trap and beheaded. Reuters journalists were fired upon by American soldiers in Iraq, and the Pentagon has claimed they fired first. Journalists covering the war in Iraq have been killed while embedded with troops. Others have been denied access to key sources or pressured to slant the news to favor a political agenda.



Nicholas Lemann

To examine the varied risks facing those who report from abroad and the dilemmas faced by their editors in the U.S., the Overseas Press Club is sponsoring a panel on "Reporting and Editing International News in the Post-9/11 World." Nicholas Lemann, dean of the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University and *New Yorker* writer, will moderate.

The panel will be held on Tuesday, September 14 at Club Quarters. A 5:30 p.m. reception will precede the discussion; the panel will begin at 6:30 p.m. Panelists include Jeff Bartholet, foreign editor, *Newsweek*; Susan Chira, foreign editor, *The New York Times*; Barton Gellman, special projects reporter, *The Washington*

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OPC Committee Stands Up for Freedom of the Press

By Larry Martz, Kevin McDermott and Norman Schorr

Co-chairmen of the Freedom of the Press Committee

In July, OPC's Freedom of the Press Committee joined journalists around the world in condemning the shocking murder of Paul Klebnikov, editor-in-chief of *Forbes Russia* magazine. "When you became president of the Russian Federation, we believed your words of support for freedom of the press," the Committee wrote in a letter to Russian President Vladimir Putin. "It is past the time when your words should be backed by action."

Also criticized for the stabbing of another journalist and the ban of a popular television news program, Russia was only one of the 16 countries receiving OPC protests in July. In Europe, several member states of the former Soviet Union received protests from the Committee. President Aleksandr Lukashenko of Belarus was criticized for the expulsion of a foreign journalist, the shuttering of an opposition weekly, and the jailing of a dissident private citizen for distributing leaflets critical of the country's president.

The Committee protested to the prime minister of Kazakhstan for the hit-and-run murder of a journalist hours after

interviewing two leading reformist politicians. In Poland, Andrzej Marek, editor-in-chief of the weekly newspaper *Wiesci Polickie*, was sentenced to three months in prison after reporting on the alleged criminal acts of a public official. Marek is the first journalist to serve a prison term for his work since Poland's return to democracy in 1989.

In the Americas, two working journalist were murdered in Mexico in 2004. In addition, one journalist was kidnapped and 15 others were threatened, assaulted or otherwise subjected to pressure. OPC protested to the government of President Vicente Fox.

In a message to Cuba's President Fidel Castro Ruz, OPC acknowledged the release from prisons of two of the 28 journalists jailed in March 2003, but pointed out that the two releases from prison still leave Cuba as the second worst opponent of press freedom in the world, ranking behind only China in the number of journalists held in jail.

In Africa, Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak heard from the Freedom of the Press Committee about the two-year jail sentence and heavy fine imposed on Ahmed Ezzedine, a journalist with the independent weekly, *Al-Osbou*, who accused a deputy prime minister of false

testimony at the trial of a government official. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kibel Bel Oka, publisher of the newspaper *Les Coulisses*, was imprisoned on criminal defamation charges for articles published in his paper.

OPC also protested Zimbabwe's "calculus efforts to obstruct the rights of journalists." Addressed to the country's Executive President, Robert G. Mugabe, the OPC message cited the shutdown of two newspapers and a newly-proposed harsh amendment to the already restrictive press law. Arrests and expulsions of foreign journalists in Morocco also drew criticism from OPC.

In the Middle East, a cameraman was killed and a correspondent was injured when a BBC crew was attacked in Saudi Arabia. OPC urged the country's prime minister to investigate the attack thoroughly, to assure the safety of journalists visiting Saudi Arabia, and to punish those who commit crimes against media representatives.

Asia also received attention from the Freedom of the Press Committee in July. Officials in Hong Kong and China received a protest from OPC urging them "to honor their previous international commitments to human rights." The action was prompted by the recent resignation of three Hong Kong radio hosts after they or their families received death threats and other reprisals for their on-air work. To Nepal, OPC protested the arrests of 60 journalists.

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Paul Klebnikov Murdered in Moscow

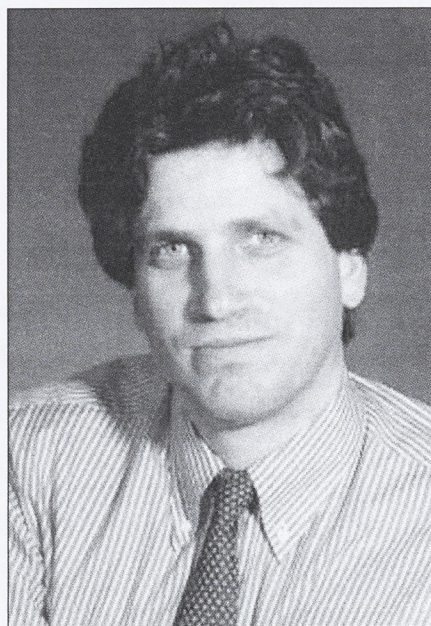
by Al Kaff

Paul Klebnikov, 41, editor-in-chief of *Forbes Russia* who had written about connections between politics, business and crime in Russia, was shot to death outside the magazine's Moscow office July 9 while he was walking to a nearby subway station. He was struck by four 9-millimeter bullets, fired by at least one gunman, who escaped. The next day, Moscow police found the car used in the drive-by shooting.

Alexander Gordeev, editor of *Newsweek's* Russian edition, which shared office space with *Forbes Russia*, came to Klebnikov's side as he lay outside the building, still conscious. Gordeev asked him who could have ordered the hit, and the victim replied, "I don't know." Klebnikov asked for oxygen, "saying that it's getting hard to breathe," the *Newsweek* editor told Russian reporters. But the ambulance that took him to City Hospital No. 20 lacked an oxygen bottle. More problems followed. The hospital gates were locked and the ambulance had to wait for them to be opened, and the elevator delivering him to surgery stalled. Klebnikov was dead on or shortly after arrival at the hospital.

Fluent in Russian and the son of an interpreter at the United Nations, Klebnikov was the descendant of émigrés who left Russia after the Bolshevik Revolution. His parents and grandparents filled him with respect for his heritage, and from an early age he dreamed of going to Russia. At 17, he tried to get a summer job on a Russian railroad. He took his doctorate at the London School of Economics with his thesis on Piotr Stolypin, the reforming Russian Prime Minister who was assassinated in 1911.

Klebnikov, who had worked for *Forbes* since 1989 and had been appointed a senior editor for the magazine in New York, moved to Moscow last year to open *Forbes Russia*. Its first issue was published in April. In May, the magazine published the names of Russia's 100 wealthiest business people, including 36 billionaires who live in Moscow, "more than any city in the world," the magazine wrote. "Such lists are sensitive in a country with high rates of poverty and unemployment and a common belief that many of today's wealthiest Russians had swindled public resources during the early and murky



Paul Klebnikov

years of post-Communist privatization," *The New York Times* reported.

Klebnikov wrote two books: "Godfather of the Kremlin: The Decline of Russia in the Age of Gangster Capitalism," a critical biography of media and oil magnate Boris Berezovsky, who sought asylum in Britain, saying he was marked for murder in Russia; and "Conversations With a Barbarian," about organized crime in Russia's war in Chechnya.

In New York, Steve Forbes, editor-in-chief of *Forbes*, said: "Paul was a superb reporter—courageous, dedicated, ever curious. He knew Russia well. It was a country he deeply loved."

Forbes, in Klebnikov's obituary, reports, "He sought to apply the best qualities of the American experience such as openness, equality and fair play to Russia at a time when the country was bereft of them....He was convinced that *Forbes Russia* would help further transparency and accountability in Russian business. Where rumors had reigned, he introduced facts and trained reporters in how to uncover them; where evasiveness and condescension had been the rule, he introduced standards of accountability and respect for shareholders and taxpayers....He was keenly aware of the danger of his chosen enterprise."

The OPC wrote to Russian President Vladimir Putin, saying: "Since it was the fourteenth assassination of a journalist

after you became Russia's president, and no one has been brought to justice for any of these killings, Klebnikov's death casts further doubt on your claims to be among the defenders of press freedom." The letter was signed by then club president Alexis Gelber and Freedom of the Press Committee members Larry Martz, Kevin McDermott and Norman A. Schorr.

The New York Times reported: "The investigation of what was apparently a contract killing [of Klebnikov] is being handled by a unit that pursues Russia's highest priority criminal cases and is under the personal supervision of the top prosecutor in the nation [Prosecutor General Vladimir Ustinov], the prosecutor's spokesman said."

Klebnikov received several honors from the OPC. He took honorable mentions in the Morton Frank Award for best business reporting from abroad in magazines, first in 1995 for "Russia on the Pacific" in *Forbes*; and again in 1996 for "The Godfather of the Kremlin?", also in *Forbes*. In 1998, he received an honorable mention in the Ed Cunningham Award for best magazine reporting from abroad, for "Who Will Rule Russia?" in *Forbes Global*.

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Micah Garen Released

Aug. 23—OPC member Micah Garen was released by his captors yesterday in Iraq. The journalist was kidnapped by gunmen along with his Iraqi translator, Amir Doushi, on August 13 in a marketplace in Nasiriya, in southern Iraq. They were held for eight days.

Garen attributed the kidnapping to a misunderstanding with bystanders, who objected to his taking photographs in the market.

"I am very grateful to everyone who worked to protect me and guarantee my release and I thank my friends in Nasiriya and my family and fiancée who spent three months with me in Nasiriya," he said. Garen specifically thanked Moktada al-Sadr, the radical Shiite cleric who called for Garen's release.

Garen, 36, is a founder and director of Four Corners Media, a documentary production company based in New York and Colorado. He has been making a film for the past year on the widespread looting of Iraq's Sumerian archaeological sites.

Journalists around the world protested Garen's kidnapping. The Committee to Protect Journalists and Reporters Without Borders released statements calling for his release. Robert E. Sullivan and Larry Martz, of OPC's Freedom of the Press Committee, sent a letter to Al-Jazeera vouching for Garen's credentials as a working journalist, and appealing for their assistance.

Garen's fate has been bound up with that of al-Sadr. The Mahdi Army, al-Sadr's militia, has been fighting Iraqi and American security forces for control of the shrine of Imam Ali in the holy city of Najaf. On August 18, Al-Jazeera broadcast a videotape showing Garen surrounded by masked gunmen, in which they threatened to kill Garen unless the U.S. Army vacated Najaf within 48 hours.

But heavy fighting in Najaf raged on. Both the U.S.-led coalition and the new Iraqi government insist they will not respond to blackmail, and the Bush administration has been critical of the Philippines, Japan and Egypt, who have paid ransoms to free their citizens.

But al-Sadr, who may be seeking a way to leverage his armed faction into a legitimate political force, appealed to the kidnappers to release Garen. Senior al-Sadr aide Sheik Aws al-Khafaji said that the Mahdi Army was against kidnap-

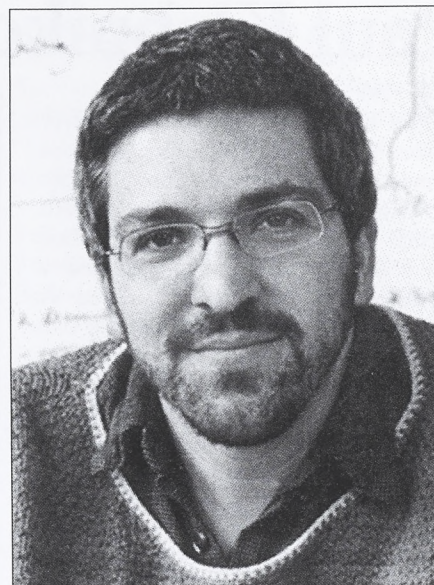
ping, "especially this journalist who rendered Nasiriya great service."

Al-Sadr has condemned the kidnappings and murders of foreigners in Iraq before, calling them "un-Islamic." He intervened in the case of British journalist James Brandon, of the Sunday Telegraph, helping to secure his release.

Al-Khafaji called publicly for Garen's kidnappers to release him. "The kidnappers listened to the call that we made during Friday prayers, and they contacted us and we asked them to bring him to [al-Sadr's] office and promised that no one would pursue them," al-Khafaji told the Associated Press.

Garen said he hoped to stay in Iraq to continue his work. "This experience hasn't made me want to leave at all," Garen told Associated Press Television News, hours after he was freed.

Three other foreign journalists are still missing in Iraq. Christian Chesnot of Radio France Internationale and Georges Malbrunot of the French daily *Le Figaro*, have been missing since August 20. Jean-Louis Validire, *Le Figaro* deputy foreign



Micah Garen

editor, said he thought Chesnot and Malbrunot may have tried to go to Najaf and were therefore unable to reach their editors. Enzo Baldoni, of the Italian newspaper *Diario*, has been missing since August 19. He disappeared while driving to Najaf in an attempt to interview al-Sadr.

A Brush with de Gaulle

By Bob Kroon

Special to the OPC

An excerpt from OPC member Bob Kroon's upcoming memoir, *"Tales of a Foreign Correspondent."*—Editor

GENEVA, Aug. 12—From Charles de Gaulle to Jacques Chirac, France has always played its own tune in the Big Band of nations.

In 1966, the chilliest period of the Cold War, I covered Charles de Gaulle's first state visit to the Soviet Union for *Time Magazine*. The event was giving Washington, London and Bonn a collective fit, because of dark suspicions that the French maverick would be the first Western leader to recognize the East German regime.

De Gaulle loved keeping friends and foes on tenterhooks, but a traitor to the Allied cause he never was. To prove the point, de Gaulle informed Leonid Brezhnev that France had no intention whatever to recognize Walter Ulbricht's "dismal satrapy."

Politics aside, observing de Gaulle's idiosyncrasies in the Soviet workers' par-

adise was an edifying experience. Our international press posse fascinated local journalists, and one evening a Tass reporter took me aside for a confidential question.

"Tell me, do you have a Swiss bank account?"

Of course, I said, because I happened to live in Geneva.

From that moment on I was treated with misplaced envy by my Soviet colleagues. "Le Général," as everybody called de Gaulle, seemed to enjoy tweaking his Soviet hosts with the same calculated innuendos that so often irritated the "Anglo-Saxons."

It started with his personal interpreter, Prince Andronikov, a haughty White-Russian émigré who had never been to the Soviet Union and harbored very grim opinions about communism. Dressed in hand-tailored suits and strutting around in a cloud of Balenciaga cologne, the prince was a one-man culture clash in egalitarian Moscow.

When the French president addressed

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Middle East—Covering the Coverage

by Al Kaff

"The crucial question is whether by invading, occupying, and imposing a new regime on Iraq, the United States may be stepping, intentionally or not, into the boots of the old western colonial powers, and even worse, may be doing so in a region that within living memory concluded a lengthy struggle to expel those hated colonial occupations."

"Resurrecting Empire"

[Beacon Press, 2004]

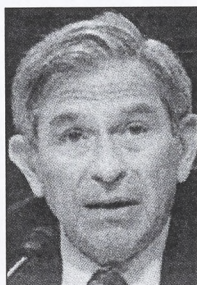
By Rashid Khalidi, Professor of Arab Studies at Columbia University

June 8

Dan Williams of *The Washington Post*: "I have covered conflicts in Palestine, Lebanon, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Somalia, Chechnya and Kosovo and, during last year's invasion of Iraq, the fighting in Kurdistan, as well as coups and civil strife in Panama and Haiti, and riots in Miami....But rarely have I been in a place where danger arrives from so many directions as in Iraq."

June 22

Deputy U.S. Defense Secretary Paul D. Wolfowitz told the House Armed Services Committee: "Frankly, part of our problem is a lot of the press are afraid to travel very much, so they sit in Baghdad and they publish rumors. And rumors are plentiful." Reaction came swiftly. *Washington Post* media reporter Howard Kurtz speaking on CNN: "What rumors?" The *New York Daily News*: "Never mind that more than two dozen journalists have been killed while covering the violence in Iraq."



Paul Wolfowitz

New York Times columnist Maureen Dowd: "Beyond sliming journalists... who are risking their lives traveling around Iraq to cover the cakewalk that became chaos, Mr. Wolfowitz dodges the responsibility he bears for turning Iraq into a shooting gallery and Al Qaeda recruitment center."

Two days later, Wolfowitz issued a written apology: "I know that many journalists continue to go out each day—in the most dangerous circumstances—to bring us coverage of the war in Iraq and Afghanistan. Since the beginning of hostilities in Iraq, 34 journalists have given

their lives; many others have been injured while bringing us that story....Unfortunately, in meaning to convey my frustration about the erroneous coverage of one particular news story, the statement I made came out much differently than I intended." The *Daily News*: "A top Bush administration official apologizing to the news media? Has the world gone mad?" *Newsweek* editor Mark Whitaker: "It was an outrageous charge, given the courage so many Iraq correspondents have displayed, and Wolfowitz quickly apologized." *Newsweek's* Conventional Wisdom column: "Bush's biggest chicken hawk has to apologize for impugning courage of reporters in Iraq. What nerve." Joe Klein in a *Time* commentary: "Paul Wolfowitz suffered a meltdown in a House Armed Service Committee hearing, blasting the press for 'sitting in Baghdad' and 'printing rumors.'"



Mark Whitaker

June 26

The three U.S. broadcast networks hired private security firms to guard their news anchors covering the U.S.-led coalition's handover of administration to the new Iraq government. The *New York Daily News* said the networks were paying about \$1,000 a day per man to protect Dan Rather of CBS, Tom Brokaw of NBC and Peter Jennings of ABC.

June 27

Dexter Filkins of *The New York Times* wrote from Baghdad: "Asked what he thought the impact of the French Revolution had been, the Chinese prime minister Zhou Enlai responded: 'It is too soon to tell.' It often seems that way here; the old is dead and dying, but the new is still convulsing, struggling hideously to be born."

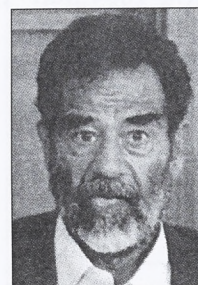
June 28

At 8:30 a.m. in Baghdad, the Coalition Provisional Authority began telephoning correspondents to tell them they had 30 minutes to get inside the heavily-guarded Green Zone for a background briefing by occupation chief Paul Bremer. About 30 reporters and photographers arrived at the headquarters. At 10 a.m., authorities took the reporters' cell phones, placed them in brown envelopes

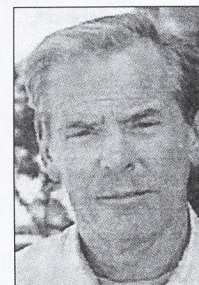
so they could not be used and then told the correspondents that the transfer of sovereignty to Iraq was about to take place, two days earlier than scheduled, but that the news was embargoed until noon. ABC News anchor Peter Jennings and CNN correspondent Christiane Amanpour were the only big-name TV reporters to witness the brief transfer ceremony.

July 1

The only Western correspondents allowed in the Baghdad courtroom while Saddam Hussein listened to the charges against him were the pool reporter, John Burns, *The New York Times*; pool photographer Karen Ballard, *Time*; and news anchors Peter Jennings, ABC News, and Christiane Amanpour, CNN. Jennings and Amanpour had asked Salem Chalabi, director of the Iraqi Special Tribunal for



Saddam Hussein



Peter Jennings

permission to attend Hussein's court hearing. Dan Rather, CBS News, made the same request but was excluded. Tom Brokaw, NBC News, had left Baghdad the day before the court hearing, and his colleague Richard Engel failed in his attempt to win a place in the courtroom. Video coverage of the courtroom hearing was taken by a pool camera supplied by CNN, and CBS edited the video under the supervision of U.S. military officials, who deleted some of the footage.

July 4

After sharing his pool notes with other reporters, John Burns wrote in *The New York Times*: "On television last Thursday, the images of the 12 former Iraqi leaders conveyed an altogether bigger impression, perhaps because the lens tightened until their faces filled the screen. But to a reporter sitting 25 feet away, for the five hours it took to complete preliminary hearings against Saddam Hussein and 11 others who terrorized Iraq, they seemed to have shrunk, pressing home the question: How could

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COVERING THE COVERAGE

(Continued from Page 3)

these utterly unremarkable men, forgettable in any other context, have so tyrannized 25 million countrymen that they remained unchallenged for 35 years?" Attending the hearings inside the improvised courtroom in a mosque annex near Baghdad airport, Burns wrote, were 35 people: the judge, court clerks, Iraqi interim government officials, "the American admiral in sports club casuals overseeing the media pool; a handful of reporters, Iraqis and Americans, representing hundreds of others."

Kurt Schork Awards

NEW YORK—The 2004 Kurt Schork Awards in International Journalism have been awarded to Andrew Meldrum, of *The Guardian*, for reporting on the Mugabe regime's brutal practices in Zimbabwe, and Liviu Avram, of the Romanian newspaper *Adevarul*, for an investigation of government corruption in Romania.

The Columbia Graduate School of Journalism administers the Kurt Schork Awards, given in honor of the freelance reporter killed in a military ambush while on assignment for Reuters in May 2000. The awards recognize reporting that sheds new light on controversial issues, including conflicts, human-rights concerns or cross-border issues in a particular country or region. Kurt Schork was best known for his hard-hitting reports from Bosnia during the siege of Sarajevo.

Honorable Mentions were awarded to James Brabazon, *The Guardian/The Scotsman*, for his reports on the war in Liberia; Masoud Ansari, *Newsline Magazine* (Pakistan), for coverage of corrupt governmental practices in Pakistan; and Qiyang Li, Zhaonian Zhao, Shuli Hu, Yi Lou, and Haili Cao, *Caijing Magazine* (China), for coverage of SARS in China.

For further information, visit the awards Web site at: www.jrn.columbia.edu/events/schork.

Elena Lappin, a British author on a *Guardian* assignment, was detained after arriving at the Los Angeles airport from London in May. She did not have an "I" (Information) visa required for all journalists, even though British citizens are allowed to enter the United States without a visa. Recounting her experience in *The New Times Book Review* on the Fourth of July, Lappin wrote: "I was interrogated for four hours, body searched, fingerprinted, photographed, handcuffed and forced to spend a night in a detention facility in central Los Angeles and another day as a detainee at the airport before flying back to London." When she applied to return to the United States, the State Department "asked me whom I was going to interview in the United States, what the nature of my article was and even what fee I would be paid." The OPC, American Society of Newspaper Editors and Reporters Without Borders sent letters of protest to U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge; Secretary of State Colin Powell; and Attorney General John Ashcroft (February *Bulletin*). Since March 2003, 13 foreign journalists were detained and deported in a similar manner, all but one at the Los Angeles airport, Lappin wrote. She continued: "American journalists working abroad, especially in free countries, are not accustomed to monitoring of this kind. By requiring foreign journalists to obtain special visas, the United States has aligned itself with the likes of Iran, North Korea and Cuba, places where reporters are treated as dangerous subversives and disseminators of uncomfortable truths."

July 12

The manuscript of the latest novel attributed to Saddam Hussein, "Get Out, You Damned," is being published in installments by *Asharq al-Awsat*, a London-based Arab newspaper. The novel describes a Zionist-Christian conspiracy against Arabs and Muslims. Hussein "was completely out of touch with actual reality, and novel writing gave him the chance to live in delusions," Iraqi writer and critic Ali Abdel Amir told AP. The manuscript was found in Iraq's Ministry of Culture after the fall of Baghdad.

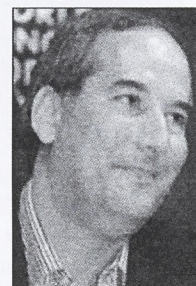
July 13

Al-Jazeera, the Arabic TV satellite network, announced a new code of ethics that it said would ensure balanced and sensitive reporting. The United States has accused the Qatar-based broadcaster of anti-American coverage of Iraq. The net-

work defended its right to report "the ugly side of war" but said it would take account of Western and Arab sensitivities when considering whether to broadcast explicit images of violence, Reuters reported. The new broadcast code was announced at the end of a two-day media conference in Qatar that also discussed growing violence against journalists, pressure on news media to suppress some news in conflicts zones and a rift between Western and Arab media since 9/11.

July 18

After two Reuters correspondents were killed by friendly fire in Iraq, Thomas H. Glocer, chief executive of the Reuters Group, wrote in a signed article in *The New York Times* that at a meeting with Pentagon officials he offered to underwrite research on an electronic device that would identify journalists to the military.



Thomas H. Glocer

In another *Times* article, reporter Ian Fisher described news coverage in Iraq: "For months, it has been too dangerous for obviously Western reporters to spend time in places like Sadr City, the biggest slum in Iraq, or Falluja... With the exception of a few brave European reporters, there were few outsiders to document the fighting in Najaf and Karbala... So when it became too dangerous, Western news organizations began to rely on people who could go almost anywhere: their Arab and Iraqi staff members."

Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi ordered the reopening of the radical Shiite newspaper *Al-Hawza* that was closed March 28 on orders of L. Paul Bremer III, then the U.S. occupation chief, because he said it had incited anti-American attacks (May *Bulletin*). The paper is run by associates of rebel Shiite cleric Moktada al-Sadr. A government statement said Allawi acted "because of his belief in freedom of the press." A Sadr spokesman said the cleric could support the government if the prime minister proves he is working on behalf of Iraqis and not under American orders.

Iran's judiciary abruptly ended the trial of an intelligence agent charged with killing Iranian-Canadian photojournalist

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Uncomfortable Truths About Foreign Coverage

By William J. Holstein
Special to the OPC

William Holstein is a former OPC president. With this article, he begins *WorldWatch*, a new regular column on the state of international journalism, which will appear on the OPC website. Please visit us at <http://www.opcofamerica.org> —Editor

NEW YORK, Aug. 17—As someone who's been involved in international journalism for 25 years (having accepted my first post as a correspondent in 1979), there are several trends in the media's coverage of the world that I find disturbing:

1. News organizations are pouring the vast majority of their international news budgets into Iraq and the Israel-Palestinian conflict and are ignoring other important subjects in the world. Foreign editors are sending correspondents from as far away as Beijing and Tokyo to cover Iraq. As a result, Americans are not hearing about important trends in Asia. Nor are they in touch with what's happening in major nations of Western Europe. Correspondents there also have been sucked into the

Middle East maelstrom. Where is the balance?

2. News organizations continue to cut back on their foreign bureaus, relying more and more on parachute artists or "big foots" when news suddenly breaks. These journalists haven't learned the local languages and haven't developed local or regional sources. They miss a great deal of the subtlety of how and why things really happen. They can't "push back" against editors or producers back home, leaving it to headquarters to dictate the spin.

3. The correspondents with the greatest experience are the first ones targeted in downsizings. I'd estimate that hundreds of American journalists with years of international experience under their belts have been fired or downsized in the past three to four years. I really believe that if the correspondents with Arabic language skills and years on the ground in Iraq were still active, the media outcry about the follies of invading Iraq would have been much louder.

4. The tendency to react to bang-bang events has overwhelmed the need to provide coverage of subtler, longer-term

trends. The media has to cover wars and riots and hurricanes, but it seems that pendulum has swung too far. Where are the thought-provoking pieces about U.S.-Chinese relations or Germany's economic expansion into Central Europe or India's rising sense of confidence in foreign policy?

5. Because so much talent has been flushed from the system and so many bureaus closed, the media as a whole keeps rediscovering old stories. It can't really learn in a way that it provides intellectual leadership to Americans or act as a buffer against what political leaders may say, which is one of the media's crucial roles in a democracy. It seems new waves of reporters are discovering that Sunnis hate Shiites, that the Japanese have a different culture than the Anglo-Saxon world and that Latin American political elites are corrupt.

In sum, it's very difficult to measure the quality of the news flowing to Americans from the rest of the world. But in view of these uncomfortable truths, I submit that the media today is not performing to its historically high standards.

ELECTION

(Continued from Page 1)

Barton Gellman, special projects reporter for *The Washington Post*

Robert Dowling, managing editor of *BusinessWeek International* and an assistant managing editor of *BusinessWeek*

ACTIVE ALTERNATES:

John R. MacArthur, reporter, author, and publisher of *Harper's Magazine*

David Alpern, contributing editor of *Newsweek*; co-anchor of *Newsweek on Air*

Harry Benson, photojournalist

ASSOCIATES:

Yvonne Dunleavy, author/journalist

Minky Worden, electronic media director for Human Rights Watch

ASSOCIATE ALTERNATE:

Bill Collins, Director of Public Affairs at Ford Motor Company, New York

Accountant Richard Sherman apprised the members of the financial situation. As with many organizations, a depressed business climate had led to smaller advertising revenues and tighter purse-strings.

Sherman welcomed several fresh ideas for enhancing membership and revenues, and expressed guarded confidence about the future. "Be creative, but do it now," he advised.

MSNBC's Mike Moran discussed ongoing improvements at the OPC website. Larry Martz, co-chair of the OPC Freedom of the Press Committee, discussed their activities on behalf of journalists around the globe, and called for volunteers to assist in their work. "It's not time-consuming, and you can make a real difference," he said. Bill Holstein opened the floor for new ideas on recruiting student members.

After the ritual passing of the gavel, incoming President Stolley expressed gratitude, and said that he looked forward to working with the membership to strengthen the organization. Stolley believes that the OPC can do a better job of "selling itself." "We have to think about P.R.," he told the members.

Two Gavels— Better Than One

(MIKE) HAMMER MYSTERY

At the Overseas Press Club annual meeting, the director of special projects at *Newsweek*, Alexis Gelber, handed over the gavel as club president to Richard Stolley of Time, Inc.

But there was some question as to which gavel she would pass down to her successor—Ms. Gelber opted to give him two. One was made of oak, from the Old North Church in Boston, and the other gavel came from the Society of Magazine Writers.

When asked about the origin of the gavels, the club's executive director, Sonya Fry, told the Knickerbocker, "I have no idea. We've just had them forever."

Gary Shapiro
for the *New York Sun*



PEOPLE...with Al Kaff

GORDON CURRIE/BILL SHINN

ALEXANDRIA, Virginia:

Steven J. Hatfill, a former researcher at the U.S. Army's infectious disease research laboratory, sued *The New York Times* and its columnist, OPC member **Nicholas Kristoff**, in U.S. District Court this summer, claiming they defamed him by identifying him as the likely culprit in the 2001 anthrax attacks. Last year Hatfill sued the FBI and U.S. Attorney General John D. Ashcroft, who had publicly called Hatfill a person of interest in the investigation of anthrax-tainted letters mailed to media and government offices. No one has been charged in the attacks.

BANGKOK: Shin Corporation, a media and communications conglomerate founded by Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra and controlled by his family, has filed a libel suit against **Supinya Klangnarong**, 31, secretary-general of the non-governmental Campaign for Popular Media Reform. In an article published in the *Thai Post*, Supinya accused Shin of using its 2003 profit of \$425 million to enhance the fortunes of the prime minister's political party. She told **Jane Perlez** of *The New York Times*: "We think it's very dangerous when one company controls all ownership of communication tools in Thailand....The prime



**Supinya
Klangnarong**

minister wants the country to be modernized, and to be developed, but he doesn't want to hear different voices." Shinawatra's government controls Thailand's major TV channels, and Shin Corporation took over the lone private channel, ITV, last year. The company denied it helped the ruling Thai Rak Thai party, arguing that its success was due to its business acumen, not political connections.

GUANGZHOU, China: A Guangzhou court upheld the conviction of **Yu Huaifeng**, an editor at the *Southern Metropolitan Daily*, this spring but reduced his sentence from 12 to 8 years.

OPC member **Howard W. French** of *The New York Times* wrote: "Mr. Yu was accused of graft, but among journalists the prosecution has been widely seen as punishment for the newspaper's aggressive coverage of the SARS epidemic and of police brutality against prisoners in custody."

HONG KONG: *FocusAsia*, a weekly television news magazine produced by OPC member **Jim Laurie**, won five Human Rights Press Awards in this year's ninth annual judging in Hong Kong. The magazine's awards were for reporting on religion in Vietnam, women's rights and child abuse in Pakistan, environment dangers in India and an award to Laurie's program for "sustained excellence" over the past four years. The awards are sponsored by Amnesty International, PEN International, the Hong Kong Journalists Association and the Hong Kong Foreign Correspondents' Club.

KIEV: A convicted murderer has admitted killing opposition journalist **Georgy Gongadze**, 31, who vanished in 2000 and whose headless body later was found in a forest outside Kiev (June 2001 *Bulletin*). In his online publication, Gongadze criticized Ukraine President Leonid D. Kuchma, who denied allegations from political opponents that he was involved in the killing. The murder suspect, identified by officials only as "Mr. K," was in prison for other decapitations when he confessed to killing the journalist.



Georgy Gongadze

LONDON: OPC member **Horst Faas**, AP's London-based photo editor for Europe, Middle East and Africa, retired this spring after 48 years and 100 days with the wire service. But he's not idle. He continues to work at AP on a project basis and was a member of the international photo pool at the Athens Summer Olympics in August. Faas won Pulitzer Prizes in 1965 with his Vietnam War photos and in 1972 with **Michel**



Horst Faas in Hanoi, 1973

Laurent for photos of the aftermath of civil war in Bangladesh. Faas also covered the Congo, Algiers and upheavals in the Middle East and produced two books: "Requiem" with OPC member **Tim Page**, a collection of photographs made by photographers who died covering both sides of the Vietnam War, and "Lost over Laos" with **Richard Pyle** about their search for the cause of a 1971 helicopter crash in Laos that took the lives of four news photographers and seven South Vietnamese.

A gold collection plate inscribed in memory of the late **Johnnie Johnson**, who founded the reconstituted London Press Club in 1986, has been presented to St. Bride's Church through the generosity of OPC member **Henry Warshow** of New York. The church is adjacent to the club at Fleet Street, and



Bunty Johnson, Johnnie Johnson's widow; David Meara; and the collection plate.

St. Bride's canon, David Meara, is the press club's chaplain.

Our reciprocal London Press Club this summer moved its monthly party to the Johnson Bar at Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese, 145 Fleet Street, a 17th century pub and chop house famous for its connections with Dr. Samuel Johnson, Oliver Goldsmith and Charles Dickens. The move was made after the Wig & Pen Club, its former gathering place, was closed, a victim of newspaper offices moving out of Fleet Street.

LOS ANGELES: OPC member **Jim Colligan**, a Roman Catholic priest and longtime correspondent for the Catholic News Service in Japan, is helping out at the Japanese Catholic Mission in Los Angeles "especially for Japanese language rites. Given the press work I was doing during my last 30 years in Tokyo, I am out of practice and must do a bit of review to read the texts with some facility," he told **People**.

Now living in LA, Colligan corrected **People's** April report that **Relman (Pat) Morin** was in Tokyo when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor. He was in Saigon. Morin was AP's Tokyo bureau chief before the United States entered World War II. But after Japanese troops occupied Indochina before Pearl Harbor, Morin was transferred from Japan to Southeast Asia to cover growing tensions there. While researching repatriation of Catholic missionaries from Japanese-occupied areas, Colligan learned that **Max Hill** was the AP bureau chief in Tokyo when the Pacific War started.

MOSCOW: **Farid Omar**, Moscow correspondent for the Afghan service of American Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, was stabbed outside his apartment building this summer and left in critical condition. He was the second Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty correspondent to be attacked in Moscow this year.

NEWARK, Ohio: OPC member **Beverly Rowe** has been appointed to the board of directors of Citizens for Open Health Care, a Newark advocacy group that supports hospitals and patients when they are weakened by managed care business interests.

NEW YORK: Winners of OPC Foundation Scholarships continue to achieve

the program's goal by becoming foreign correspondents. **Marton Dunai**, who won last year's Roy Rowan Scholarship, is working this summer in Paris as an intern at *The Wall Street Journal Europe*. Earlier he traveled by train from Istanbul to Paris along the one-time line of the Orient Express to research a story on the new European Union and "the reality behind the Rumsfeldian distinction of Old Europe/New Europe," he wrote in an E-mail to **Jane Reilly**, executive director of the scholarship program. Dunai's story is scheduled for Public Broadcasting's Web site, www.pbs.org/frontlineworld.

Erica Duecy is a New York-based reporter for *Nation's Restaurant News*, a trade publication. She reported: "It's a wonderful job, business-oriented reporting and some travel. Get to go to Venice and Friuli in Italy." Erica won last year's David Schweisberg Scholarship.

Winners of the 2004 Maria Moors Cabot Prizes for contributions to inter-American understanding: **Gerardo Reyes**, investigative reporter for *El Nuevo Herald*, Miami; **Daniel Santoro**, investigative reporter for the *Clarín*, Argentina; **Elena Poniatowska**, journalist, author and columnist for *La Jornada*, Mexico City; and **Joel Millman**, chief of *The Wall Street Journal's* U.S.-Mexico border bureau. A special citation went to **Alberto Ibargüen**, publisher of *The Miami Herald* and *El Nuevo Herald*. Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism will present the 66th annual Cabot awards at an Oct. 5 dinner.

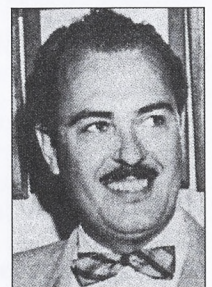
After 67 years at 50 Rockefeller Plaza, AP moved its world headquarters this summer to a building at 450 West 33 Street, where the news service now occupies three floors with a total space of about 6.5 acres. OPC member **Tom Kent**, AP deputy managing editor and former international editor, was a key planner in creating the new 14th floor newsroom, according to Senior Vice President **Jim Donna**, who said: "Working with the architects and designer, he created a newsroom that integrates every piece of our journalism—words, photos, graphic, video, digital—everything flowing back and forth on the same floor. He took 100,000 square feet and turned it into a newsroom of the 21st century."

After 34 years with AP, OPC member **Sylvia Christensen** retired from the news service in July, explaining to the

Bulletin: "Enough, and besides, I wasn't looking forward to a further commute to West 33 Street" [see above]. In June, Christensen received the one-and-only "Founder's Award" from the Westchester County, New York, chapter of the Association for Women in Communications at its 25th anniversary dinner. She was president of New York Women in Communications in the early 1970s.

OPC member **Walter Cronkite** wrote 53 weekly opinion columns that were syndicated by King Features and ran in 180 newspapers. His last column was sent out Aug. 11. The former CBS news anchor, a critic of President Bush and the Iraqi war, told **Lloyd Grove** of the New York *Daily News* that his column "has certainly driven a wedge in one of the guns against the Bush administration." Cronkite added: "The reason I am stopping [the column] is that my principal business always has been lecturing and doing documentaries, and I have found that those things and writing a column aren't quite compatible." Almost recovered from a three-year-old Achilles tendon injury, Cronkite, 87, said he wants to get back on the tennis court.

Jim Becker, an AP foreign correspondent a half century ago, now retired, tries to be in Salzburg or New York whenever Wagner's "Ring Cycle" is performed. His latest operatic junket lasted long after the final curtain. Jim and his wife Betty arrived in New York from their Honolulu home in late April. But before the first curtain, Betty fell in an elevator, broke her hip and was hospitalized for 12 days. Not all bad. The hospital was just a few blocks from the Metropolitan Opera, and Jim ducked out to attend each "Ring Cycle" performance. Back in their Honolulu apartment this summer, Jim was doing the household and shopping chores while Betty moved around with a walker. During his long AP career, Becker reported from Honolulu, the Korean War, Tokyo, Manila and Singapore. But memories are short: "AP opened a new bureau in Honolulu a few weeks ago, and I was invited to talk at the



Jim Becker a half century ago

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PEOPLE

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opening ceremony," Jim told **People**. "I was introduced as *Ed Becker*."

PARIS: OPC member **Eliane Laffont**, editorial director of Hachette Filipacchi Media, was one of the judges who selected photojournalist **Kristen Ashburn** to receive this year's Canon Female Photojournalist Award for her story on the impact of AIDS on the daily life, culture and economy in Zimbabwe. The 8,000 Euros award (about U.S.\$9,680), funded by Canon Communication and *Image France*, will be presented in September by the Association des Femmes Journalistes at an international photojournalism festival in Perpignan, France. Ashburn, 31, who lives in New York City, made several trips to document AIDS in Africa.

ROME: **Lilli Gruber**, Italy's first woman prime-time news anchor, won a seat in the European Parliament in June, defeating the party of Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, whose family owns three national commercial TV networks. As a journalist at state broadcaster RAI, Gruber, 47, has reported from Baghdad, Gaza and New York since 9/11.



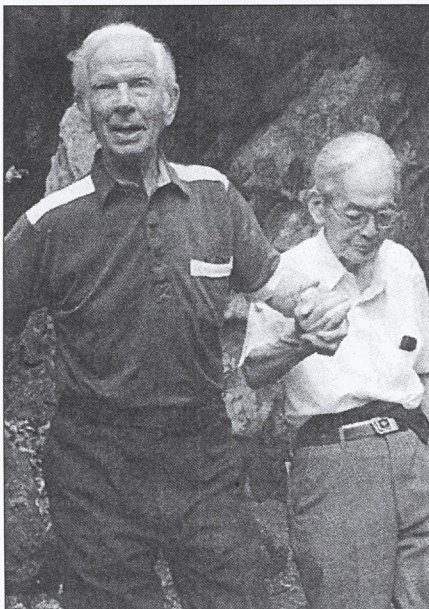
Lilli Gruber

Her memoir of covering last year's Iraq war, "I Miei Giorni in Baghdad" ("My Days in Baghdad") became a best seller in Italy. But when state TV came under indirect control of Berlusconi's government, Gruber switched from reporting news to making it. Gruber is married to Paris-based French reporter **Jacques Charmelot**, 49, whom she met in Baghdad in 1991.

SAIPAN, Northern Mariana Islands: **John Rich** was a U.S. Marine lieutenant during World War II. He learned Japanese at a Navy language school set up after Pearl Harbor and served in the Pacific interrogating Japanese POWs. In the 1944 battle for Saipan, about 30,000 Japanese and 3,144 American soldiers were killed. Among the captured who were interrogated by Rich was Takeo Sato, a Japanese Imperial Navy officer. After the war and with photos and home addresses, Rich located six of his POWs in Tokyo, but

Sato was still in a POW camp in Hawaii. At the Sato family residence, he found Takeo's photo draped in black, because his family believed he was dead. The news of their son's survival started a family friendship that has lasted six decades. "Takeo and I met often when I lived in Tokyo," Rich, who for many years was an NBC News correspondent in Japan, told **People**. After the war, Sato worked for his father-in-law's company, which manufactured crystal glass art pieces.

Sato, now 85, and OPC member Rich, 86, met again this June when veterans returned for the 60th anniversary of the Saipan battle. Sato recalled: "I expected that as a captured enemy soldier, someone would hit me. But John-san was a real gentleman. He was very levelheaded. He was not forceful." In a dispatch from the Saipan reunion, OPC member **James Brooke** of *The New York Times* wrote: "Drawing on their own experiences, both men say they cannot understand news reports of American military abuses of prisoners in Iraq. Cautious about drawing wider conclusions, they say their friendship illustrates how mortal enemies can overcome the passions of the past." John was accompanied on his return to Saipan by his wife, Doris Lee; their twin sons, Whitney of Tokyo and Nate of Taipei, both businessmen; and two grandchildren. From Saipan, where John said luxury hotels now dot the old battlefield beaches, the Riches went to Tokyo, and the Foreign Correspondents' Club, where John was president 1970-1971, held a reception for them.



John Rich and Takeo Sato on Saipan

SEOUL: South Korea is dismantling its press club system that controls coverage of government offices. Press clubs decide which newspapers and broadcasters can report from the presidential mansion and other government offices ranging from cabinet ministries to police precincts. **Norimitsu Onishi** of *The New York Times* reported: "Starting a year ago at the presidential offices, known as the Blue House, press clubs—in which reporters from major media outlets excluded other journalists and decided what to report, sometimes in conjunction with government officials—have been eliminated in one government office after another." The press club system was a holdover from Japan's colonial rule of Korea that ended in 1945. Since 2002, press clubs in Japan have been open to non-members "though most Japanese journalists will acknowledge that, in practice, little has changed," *The Times* reported.

SHELTON, Washington: OPC Member **Wilmott Ragsdale**, professor emeritus of journalism at the University of Wisconsin, celebrated his 93rd birthday with a trip to Antarctica. In an interview in his hometown newspaper, he recalled his experiences covering World War II's D-Day for *Time*. He saw U.S. troops land on Omaha Beach, and one of his photographs published in *Life* showed the first of Allied grave in Normandy. Despite the dangers and carnage, Ragsdale recalls the war years with warmth: "When you're young, it all just adds to the excitement of being there."

TIJUANA, Mexico: **Francisco Ortiz Franco**, 48, an editor and investigative reporter at the weekly newspaper *Zeta*, was shot to death at point blank range in front of his two young sons in June. Two days later, Mario Alberto Rivera Lopez was arrested in connection with the killing after a shootout with police. He is a reputed assassin for the Arellano Felix drug cartel. Ortiz's newspaper has reported on crime, corruption and drug traffickers in Tijuana, where the drug cartel reportedly controls one quarter of the cocaine entering the United States. Ortiz was the third *Zeta* journalist to be attacked in the last 16 years. The newspaper's co-founder, **Hector Félix Miranda**, was shot dead in 1988. Its editor, **Jesús Blancornelas**, survived five shots fired by Arellano Felix gunmen in 1997. In a July letter to Mexico's

President Vicente Quesada Fox, the OPC Freedom of the Press Committee wrote: "These attacks on journalists cast a very disturbing shadow on Mexico's world reputation and are bound to injure relations with the United States unless corrective measures are taken."

TOKYO: Anthony Rowley, Japan correspondent for the *Business Times* of Singapore, was elected president of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan for a one-year term that started July 1. Rowley defeated **Daniel Sloan** of Reuters, 115-95. Sloan was president for three months before the election, filling out the term of **Myron Belkind**, who resigned in March after retiring from AP and leaving Tokyo (June/July *Bulletin*).



Anthony Rowley

A color copy of the Mona Lisa was hung this summer in the main bar at the Foreign Correspondents' Club. What a change! From 1958 to 1990, a large color photo of a nude Marilyn Monroe decorated the club's stag bar. The stag bar and Marilyn disappeared after women's liberation came to Japan. Despite objection from some women members, the club's board voted to put Marilyn back on display in 1997, but the photo was kidnapped the next year by the "Marilyn Liberation League" that left its Communiqué #1 in Japanese: "You must meet our demands for return of Monroe-san. As foreign correspondents, you must help to uncover the mystery of her death."



Then
Marilyn Monroe



Now
Mona Lisa

WASHINGTON: Donatella Lorch, a Washington and foreign correspondent for 17 years, is the new director of the Knight International Press Fellowships. A former reporter for *Newsweek*, NBC

News and *The New York Times*, she covered the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, the fall of the Taliban, the first Gulf War, the civil war in Somalia, the Rwanda genocide and other conflicts in Africa, the Middle East and South Asia.



Donatella Lorch

CORRECTION: The title of **Pam Proctor's** 2003 book is "Song of Saigon: One Woman's Journey to Freedom," not "Song of Songs" as reported in the June/July *Bulletin*. OPC member Pam reports that a paperback version of the book was released in August by Warner Books.

WEDDINGS

Walker Jacobs, 32, Reuters vice president for sales in North and South America, and **Jennifer Treuhaft**, 28, an executive assistant in New York with the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, were married July 17 in Fairmount Presbyterian Church in Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

Timothy Morrison, 29, executive producer of *Time's* Asian edition Web site in Hong Kong, and **Manju Gurung**, who works for a management consulting firm and is a daughter of a retired Gurkha Regiment captain, were married July 16 at a nondenominational ceremony in Hong Kong's Shek-O Golf and Country Club.

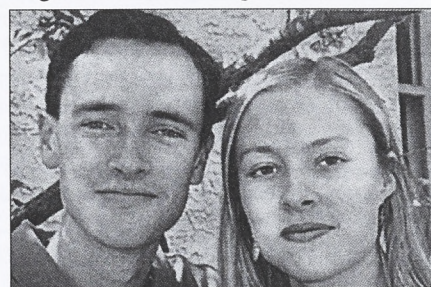
OPC member **David C. Turnley**, 49, a photojournalist who covered the Tiananmen Square uprising and the fall of the Berlin Wall for *The Detroit Free Press*, winning a 1990 Pulitzer Prize, and **Melina Zacharopoulos**, 33, an attorney, were married July 11 at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New York. Now freelancing, Turnley covered



Melina Zacharopoulos and David C. Turnley

the Iraqi war and directed "La Tropical," a documentary about a dance hall in Cuba. His work in Iraq is featured in his book, "Baghdad Blues: A War Diary" [Vendome Press, 2003]. Until April, his bride was an associate at Sheresky Aronson & Mayefsky, a New York matrimonial law firm.

Julia Olmstead and **Phillip Cryan**, both 25, who work for *Colombia Week*, an on-line English-language compendium of news about Colombia, were married July 3 by a United Methodist minister at MelWel Lodge in Iron Bridge, Ontario. Olmstead is an editor for the news service, focusing on human rights, and Cryan is a consultant. They met in Nicaragua in 2002 at a meeting of Witness for Peace, a human rights organization for which they were working. The bride is studying for a master's degree in plant breeding and sustainable agriculture at Iowa State University. Her husband is a freelance writer and a farmhand at a vegetable farm in Mingo, Iowa.



Julia Olmstead and Phillip Cryan

IN MEMORY

Carl Mydans, 97, a *Life* photographer since the magazine's founding, a wartime prisoner of the Japanese and a combat photographer in World War II, Korea and Vietnam, died August 16 at his home in Larchmont, New York, after a long illness and the amputation of a leg about two years ago. Among his historic pictures are General Douglas MacArthur wading ashore in the Philippines in 1945; Japanese delegates signing the World War II surrender documents on the battleship Missouri [one of these pictures hangs in the OPC office] and train commuters from New York City's Grand Central Terminal reading newspapers



Carl Mydans
on the job in 1950

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PEOPLE – IN MEMORY

(Continued from Page 11)

with banner headlines reading “President Kennedy Assassinated.”

In 1931, while working as a reporter for *American Banker*, Mydans started shooting pictures with a 35-millimeter Contax when the use of 35-millimeter film was a novelty in the news business. After photographing cotton farms and laborers in the U.S. South and small town life in New England for the government’s Depression-era Resettlement Administration, Mydans joined *Life* in 1936, a week before its first issue appeared. Two years later, he married **Shelley Smith**, a *Life* researcher-reporter whose father had started Stanford University’s journalism program.

Life made the Mydans a writer-photographer team. They covered the 1939 Soviet invasion of Finland, wartime developments in Italy and France, the Sino-Japanese war in China in 1941 and later that year the Philippines, where they were taken prisoners by Japanese troops invading Manila. After 21 months in captivity at Manila’s Santa Tomas University and in Shanghai, they were released in a prisoner exchange. Carl then covered the war in Italy, France and the Pacific.

After the war, Mydans reported from Asia. He photographed preparations for the hydrogen bomb test at Bikini Atoll in 1946. In 1947, he and his wife were put in charge of *Time-Life’s* Tokyo bureau. In the 1950’s and 1960’s, Mydans traveled to Hong Kong, Greenland, Samoa, Russia, Yugoslavia and Vietnam. After *Life* ceased weekly publication in 1972, he worked for *Time*, *Smithsonian* magazine and other publications.

In a video based on his career, Carl said that when Shelley accompanied him on photo assignments she would take notes on the people and places photographed for captions, freeing him to concentrate on his camera work. **Andy Grundberg** wrote in *The New York Times*: “Mr. Mydans specialized in getting one picture that told the story by



President Kennedy assassinated

itself. As a result, he proved most useful to *Life’s* editors when space was tight and news was breaking.”

Carl was the author of three books, one written with his wife. She died in 2002. Survivors include their son **Seth Mydans**, a *New York Times* correspondent now based in Southeast Asia, and daughter Shelley (Misty), an administrative law judge in California.

Gloria Emerson, 75, who covered wars in Vietnam, Gaza and Algeria for *The New York Times*, was found dead in her New York City apartment Aug. 4.



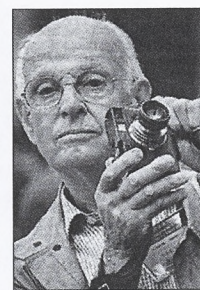
Gloria Emerson in 1977

She suffered from Parkinson’s disease and left notes indicating she would take her own life, the *Times* reported. Emerson’s dispatches emphasized the physical suffering and psychic damage of war on civilians, children and soldiers

on both sides. She won a George Polk Award for excellence in foreign reporting, a Matrix Award from New York Women in Communications and wrote several nonfiction books and a novel.

Henri Cartier-Bresson snapped his first photos with a Brownie box camera during a hunting trip to Africa. All those snapshots were ruined, he contracted blackwater fever and nearly died. Recuperating in Marseilles in 1931, he acquired his first 35-millimeter Leica and roamed the streets to “trap life” through the lens. From there, French-born Cartier-Bresson went on to photograph the Spanish Civil War, Germany’s World War II occupation of France (he served as a corporal in the French Army’s Film and Photo unit, was captured and spent 35 months in POW camps), India’s partition, China’s civil war and events in Indonesia, Egypt, Cuba and the Soviet Union. His work

was published in magazines including *Life* and *Paris-Match*, and he was one of the founders of Magnum Photos in 1948. His advice for good photos: shoot quickly, use only black-and-white film, do not use a flash and do not crop. Cartier-Bresson died Aug. 3 at his home in Southwest France at age 95.



Henri Cartier-Bresson

Larry R. Shannon, 67, a former *New York Times* assistant foreign editor and later travel editor, died of pancreatic cancer July 31 at his home in Toms River, New Jersey. He retired from the *Times* in 1997.

Tiziano Terzani, 65, Asian correspondent for the German news weekly *Der Spiegel* for more than 30 years and a contributor to the Italian dailies *Corriere della Sera* and *La Repubblica*, died of cancer July 28 at his home near Florence, Italy. He reported from the Vietnam War, China, Hong Kong, Japan, the Soviet Union, India and elsewhere. Once, on the advice of a soothsayer, Terzani gave up air travel for a year and wrote accounts of using slow boats, railways and highways in Southeast Asia. *The New York Times* wrote: “His overarching theme was the high social and cultural cost of Asia’s embrace of the West’s materialism.”

Richard Cushing, 87, an AP correspondent who covered the final year of World War II in the Pacific and then reopened AP’s Shanghai bureau, died July 23 at his home in Mill Valley, California. After AP, he was acting director of the Voice of America, 1968-1969, and served as a U.S. foreign service officer in Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Venezuela and Kenya.

Robert C. (Baldy) Miller, 89, a globe-trotting correspondent who covered six wars during 45 years with United Press/United Press International, died at his home in Hilo, Hawaii, July 26 following a stroke. In 1942 during World War II, Miller landed with U.S. Marines on Japan-held Guadalcanal, and in 1944 he was one of 17 survivors of a U.S. ship sunk by a German submarine in the English Channel. He covered the Palestine War, the Greek Civil War, the



MacArthur goes ashore in the Philippines

Korean War, the bombardment of China's offshore islands in the Taiwan Strait and the Vietnam War during which he was captured by North Vietnamese soldiers in Cambodia and held for eight hours. Miller reported from Antarctica and Alaska, was Honolulu bureau chief for 16 years, and bureau chief in Tokyo and Sydney. He joined UP in 1938, spending some of his years as a temporary hire, signing on for assignments when big stories broke. He retired in 1983 and spent his time making annual trips to Australia and New Zealand, trout fishing in California and sipping vodka gimlets.



Robert C. (Baldy) Miller

The 1998 book "Foreign Correspondents in Japan," written by members of the Tokyo Foreign Correspondents Club, called Miller a "bon vivant nonpareil." He had homes in Hilo: Whitmore, California; and Sydney, Australia. Three days before Miller died, Hilo's Big Island Press Club handed out its annual scholarship that is named for him and has been awarded for the past 30 years. Six days before his death, Miller married Michi Haga, who had been his companion for 54 years.

◆
Elie Abel, 83, who reported from Europe and Asia before becoming a journalism dean, died of pneumonia July 22 at a Rockville, Maryland, hospice. In poor health since a 1998 stroke, he was afflicted with Alzheimer's disease. Born in Montreal, Abel served as a radar officer and combat correspondent in the Royal



Elie Abel

Canadian Air Force during World War II. He joined the staff of *The Montreal Gazette* in 1945, a day after his military discharge. In the late 1940s, Abel spent two years in Berlin as a correspondent for the North American Newspaper Alliance. He joined *The New York Times* in 1949, reporting from Detroit and Washington and then serving as bureau chief in Belgrade and New Delhi. He left the *Times* in 1959, spent two years as Washington bureau chief for *The Detroit News* and then started a six-year career with NBC News that included

tours as State Department correspondent, London bureau chief and chief diplomatic correspondent.

In 1969, Abel was appointed dean of Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism, explaining in an interview: "I decided I had done my share of running around the world and in more recent years of running to airports with microphones in my hand." In a decade as dean, he created a program in economics and business reporting for mid-career journalists, now the Knight-Bagehot Fellowship.

COVERING THE COVERAGE

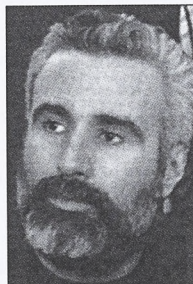
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Zahra Kazemi, 54, and said a verdict would come later. A lawyer representing her family charged that the real killer is free and the man on trial, secret agent Muhammad Reza Aghdam Ahmadi, 42, was not involved in the killing "and will later be acquitted, and the whole crime will be covered up."

That's exactly what happened. A week after the trial ended, the court cleared Ahmadi for "lack of proof." In a statement, the hard-line judiciary claimed that Kazemi's death was accidental "because of a drop in her blood sugar level caused by her hunger strike, thus making her fall from a standing position and get hurt." But the court ordered the Iranian government to pay \$9,200 in "blood money" to her family as compensation for her death, half the amount stipulated by Iranian law for a man's death. The family's Iranian lawyer, Shirin Ebadi, 57, who won the Nobel Peace Prize last year, said she would appeal the ruling. The photojournalist died last year of a brain hemorrhage caused by a blow to her head while in custody for taking photos outside Tehran's Evin prison (September 2003 *Bulletin*).

July 27

Edward Caraballo, who was arrested in Kabul on charges of running a private jail for terror suspects, actually is a journalist who was working on a story, his friends and colleagues said. They told *The New York Times* that Caraballo went to Afghanistan to film a documentary on Jonathan K. Idema, a U.S. Green Beret who claims to have fought in the Afghan war. Caraballo,



Edward Caraballo

In 1973 he hired the school's first woman in a tenured track faculty position, **Phyllis T. Garland**, a former writer and editor at *The Pittsburgh Courier* and *Ebony* magazine. She retired this June.

◆
Elizabeth (Liz) Klaverkamp, 71, wife of OPC member **Robert Klaverkamp**, died in her sleep July 11 at their home in Brainerd, Minnesota. Cause of death was undetermined. Bob and Liz were married in 1957 and went immediately
(Continued on Page 14)

Idema and a third American, Brett Bennett, were arrested July 5 after police found eight Afghans being held prisoner in Idema's house. The three Americans went on trial in July. Prosecutors charged that they conducted a vigilante war against terrorism and tortured their prisoners. But in New York, Gary Scurka, who worked with Caraballo at WWOR, Channel 9 TV in New York in the 1990s and later at CBS News, said Caraballo is a "first-class photojournalist. Anyone who's trying to say that he's not a journalist or that he went over there to be a vigilante is simply mistaken." A spokesman for the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, which awards the Emmys, said Caraballo won four Emmys in 1992 and 1993.

Aug. 4

The author of "Imperial Hubris," a book critical of the Bush administration's handling of the war against terrorism, has been ordered by the CIA to stop giving news interviews without prior written approval, his editor at Brassey's, the publisher, told *The New York Times*. The author, who wrote the book anonymously, is a CIA counter-terrorism official who previously ran the unit concentrating on Osama bin Laden. In his book and interviews, the author, identified only as "Mike," said the war in Iraq distracted from the effort to fight Al Qaeda, inflamed Islamic resentment against the United States and aided Al Qaeda recruitment.

Aug. 7

Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi ordered Al-Jazeera's Baghdad bureau closed for 30 days, charging that the TV network's coverage of kidnappings has encouraged militants. He said the bureau would be allowed to reopen after a month if the network addresses the government's concern.

PEOPLE — IN MEMORY

(Continued from Page 13)

ately to Tokyo, where they lived for 30 years. Bob was a UPI correspondent and sales executive and later head of *Reader's Digest* in Japan. After Tokyo, they were based in Hong Kong for seven years before retiring in Minnesota in 1994. Noted for his humor, Bob wrote that Liz "collected art and spent like a sailor after her husband joined *Reader's Digest* and later Time-Warner Inc. They had very little money in their early [UPI] years."

◆
William K. McClure, 81, the first European producer for CBS News' 60

DE GAULLE

(Continued from Page 4)

the Soviet populace by Molnya satellite, Andronikov's translation in pre-revolutionary Russian deeply impressed television audiences from Vladivostok to the Baltic. Taking a leaf from his aristocratic interpreter, de Gaulle kept referring to the Soviet Union as "Russia."

A roguishly deliberate mistake, we were told by French journalists.

In Leningrad, after a perfunctory tour of the Hermitage, de Gaulle was taken to a steel complex, where the Soviets were building the giant turbines for Nasser's Aswan High Dam—spurned by the West. Visibly bored by the technical explanations of a chief engineer, de Gaulle interrupted, "Yes, yes, but how are you getting these enormous gadgets to their destination?"

Soviet transports would take the turbines to Alexandria, the chief engineer explained, but after that it was up to the Egyptians to move everything up the Nile to Aswan. Noting the Frenchman's critically raised eyebrow, the engineer whispered conspiratorially, "And frankly, Mr. President, we're wondering if the Egyptians are up to it."

Never at a loss for a sarcastic repartee, *Le Grand Charles* shot back: "Well, they built the pyramids, didn't they?"

A nice quote, I thought, but our Russian hosts looked sour. At the end of the trip, de Gaulle thanked the press for their efforts and the towering general turned to me.

"You work for *Time*, right?"

"Oui, Monsieur le Président."

"Well, I am very pleased that such big American magazine is represented here by a European."

So much for transatlantic togetherness.

Minutes and an OPC member for more than 50 years, died July 2 in Sardinia, where he had a summer home. Born in Knoxville, Tennessee, he lived in London for many years until his death. After serving with a U.S. Army Signal Corps film unit in Europe and Japan during and after World War II, McClure became Berlin correspondent for Pathé News, a news-reel company. From 1951-1958, he was European correspondent for **Edward R. Murrow's** *See It Now*, a CBS news series, and then was based in London, producing documentaries for *CBS Reports*. He became European correspondent for *60 Minutes* in 1968, remaining with the program 34 years. Several of his programs won Emmys including the 1968 documentary on aging, "Don't Count the Candles," filmed by **Lord Snowdon**. After retiring, McClure worked as a freelance producer and finished a documentary on Picasso a few weeks before his death.

◆
Marlon Brando: "You may ride with me to the airport." It was 1956, and the film actor was in Tokyo, replying to a United Press correspondent who asked to interview him. Brando had just held a news conference for seven Japanese reporters in his hotel room. Then 32, Brando had completed two months of work in Japan on "The Teahouse of the August Moon," in which he was cast as a comical Okinawan interpreter. No American or other foreign correspondents were allowed in Brando's news conference. But he invited the UP man, now the *Bulletin's* **People** columnist, to ride with him in a chauffeured car to Haneda airport from the



Marlon Brando in "Teahouse of the August Moon"



Al Kaff (left) and Marlon Brando, 1956

Nikkatsu, the first hotel built in Japan after World War II.

During the 40-minute ride, Brando commented on his just-completed news conference: "Japanese newsmen in comparison with newsmen throughout the world ask the most intelligent, the most respectful questions." As his car dodged a kamikaze taxi: "The Japanese are absolutely the world's worst drivers. But you know, when they hit something and spin around, you never hear a peep out of them. They don't cuss like we do." Near the airport terminal building: "Look at that babe!" UP looked out the car window for a young woman, but Brando was eyeing a child of about 3: "Japanese children are the most beautiful in the world." Brando died of pulmonary fibrosis July 1 in a Los Angeles hospital at age 80.

◆
William F. Schmick Jr., 90, who helped expand overseas coverage by Baltimore's *Sun* newspapers, died June 25 of heart failure in a Towson, Maryland, life care community. When Schmick became executive vice president in 1953, *The Sun* had one overseas bureau, in London. But in the 1950s and 1960s, he helped open bureaus in Bonn, Moscow, Paris, Rome, Hong Kong, New Delhi and Rio de Janeiro. His 40-year career with *The Sun*, *The Evening Sun* and *The Sunday Sun* began in 1939 when he joined the classified advertising department, following his father into the newspaper. The younger Schmick succeeded his father as president and publisher of the *Sun* papers in 1960.

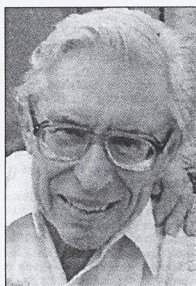
OPC PANEL

(Continued from Page 1)

Post; Adi Ignatius, foreign editor, *Time*; David Schlesinger, global managing editor and head of editorial operations, Reuters; and Bill Spindle, Mideast/Africa/Central Asia Bureau Chief, *The Wall Street Journal*. The program was organized by Jane Ciabattari, Distinguished Writer in Residence, Knox College.

◆
James Feron, a retired *New York Times* foreign correspondent, died June 19 in a Pittsfield, Massachusetts, nursing home of Parkinson's disease. During 40 years with *The Times*, Feron reported from London, Jerusalem and Warsaw from 1961-1973, when he became bureau chief in Westchester County, New York, a post he held for 18 years before retiring in 1991. During the 1980s while Feron

was based in Westchester, *The Times* sent him on temporary assignments to Jerusalem, the war over the Falkland Islands, U.S. military operations in Grenada and a year at the United Nations. He joined *The Times* in 1952 as a copy boy while attending Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism.



James Feron

◆
Shen Chi, known to foreigners as **Sampson Shen**, was a spokesman for President Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist Chinese government in China, and later on Taiwan, from the 1940s to the 1960s. He was a public relations officer during China's civil war, and chief government spokesman on Taiwan when the Nationalists and Communists battled over China's offshore islands. Affable and with a ready smile, Shen often entertained resident and visiting foreign correspondents in Taipei at Chinese dinners, during which he would trace the history of each dish back to ancient China with tales that some of his guests suspected he made up. He once led a group of correspondents on a tour around Taiwan. Stopping at a Nationalist Army base, Shen unexpectedly was asked to review the troops who were in full dress parade uniforms. Shen did so but felt silly, because he was wearing white shorts and a sports shirt. In 1961, after serving as director of the Government Information Office in Taipei, Shen started a career in diplomacy. He served as ambassador to Congo, minister at the Nationalist Chinese embassy in Washington, vice minister of foreign affairs, and ambassador to Australia, Colombia, and West Germany. He retired in San Francisco, where he died June 13 at age 86.

◆
William Graves, 77, retired editor of *National Geographic* who reported from seven continents and the North Pole, died in Lititz, Pennsylvania, June 12 of complications from a stroke. His life of adventure began on Christmas Eve 1941, three days before his 15th birthday. His mother, Elizabeth



William Graves

Graves, was married to Francis Sayre, U.S. high commissioner to the Philippines, when Japan attacked U.S. islands in the Pacific. Graves and his parents were evacuated from Manila to Corregidor, and after two months of the Japanese siege they escaped to Australia by submarine. After the war, Graves spent four years in the U.S. diplomatic service, stationed in consulates in Germany and Japan, and covered politics for the old

Munroe News Service. He joined the *National Geographic* in 1956 and was the magazine's editor from 1990-1994. In his writing career, he dropped in on an explorer at the North Pole, traveled down the Chang River in China, swam with whales off Hawaii, and descended on a thin rope to the bottom of an artesian well in Iran. Graves's father was an assistant editor of *National Geographic* before his death in 1932.

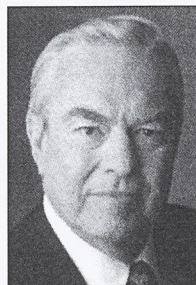
NEW BOOKS

(Continued from Page 16)

Two Most Powerful Dynasties" [New York: Scribner]. In a *New York Times* review, **Jonathan D. Tepperman**, senior editor at *Foreign Affairs* magazine, wrote: "It is Unger's thesis that America's Saudi policy has been determined largely by the financial ties between the Saudi royals and the Bush family.... Both George Bushes have made fortunes over the years by trading on their famous name to persuade rich backers to invest in their various (usually oil-related) businesses. Sometimes these backers have been Saudi, sometimes even members of the royal family. And a few have come from another Saudi clan: the bin Ladens." The book has been published in the United States, Germany, Spain and Brazil, but it ran into trouble in Great Britain. Unger's British publisher, Secker & Warburg cancelled publication, fearing it would be sued under Britain's tough libel laws. But Gibson Square Books, a small concern, agreed this summer to publish the book after the author "agreed to some changes in the text," *Publishing News* reported.

NORTH AMERICA

INVESTIGATIVE reporter **Bill Kurtis** supported the death penalty until 2000 when Illinois released the 13th innocent man from death row. "I was so shaken by the thought that the judicial system was fundamentally flawed that I began my own investigation as a lawyer and journalist," Kurtis, an OPC member, commented. He writes about his investigation in "The Death Penalty on Trial: Crisis in American Justice" [New York:



Bill Kurtis

PublicAffairs]. Innocent people have been sent to death row, Kurtis says, for several reasons, including overzealous and dishonest prosecutors, corrupt police, unreliable witnesses, incompetent defense attorneys, biased judges and jailhouse informants. A former CBS News correspondent and anchor, Kurtis now runs a Chicago company that produces television's *Investigative Reports*, *Cold Case Files* and *American Justice*.

TRAVEL writing has taken OPC member **Sheila Cole Nilva** to all 50 U.S. states and 76 countries, and her articles have been published in newspapers and magazines in New York, London, Paris and elsewhere. In her first novel, "Don't Try It on Eleventh Street!" [Bloomington, Indiana: AuthorHouse],



Eleventh Street

Nilva creates a dozen and a half extraordinary characters on New York City's 11 Street between Second and Third Avenue: "There are cops. There are robbers. There are druggies. There are EMTs. There are adulterers. There are hookers. There are thieves. There are good guys and their women. There are bad guys and their women. Also a pimp, a banker and a double-dealer."

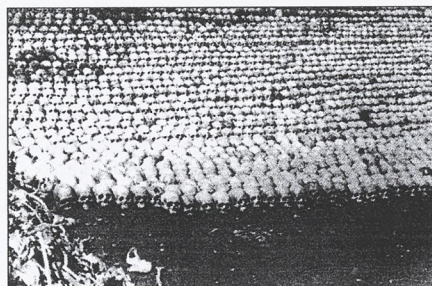
RUFUS Goodwin, an OPC member, reports that his 2003 novel "Mr. President" has been translated into German and is a best seller. A satire, the book tells of an assassination attempt carried out in the OPC against an independent candidate for U.S. president (July/August 2003 *Bulletin*).

New Books

ASIA

AS Roy Rowan puts it, he arrived in Shanghai in 1946 "after mustering out of the U.S. Army as a cocky twenty-six-year-old major....But virtually all I knew about China came from reading Pearl Buck's 'The Good Earth,' and from tales of intrigue recited by army buddies who had served in the China-Burma-India theater." He found a job with the U.N. Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) escorting shipments of relief goods to interior China, where he saw carloads sold to fatten the pockets of warlords.

Rowan's goal was to become a foreign correspondent, his secret dream since high school. In Hunan Province, he came across 5,000 human skulls lined up on a



Stadium of Skulls

hillside, victims of a 1944 Japanese massacre. His photos and report on what he called "A Stadium of Skulls," submitted on a freelance basis, were published in *Life* magazine in 1947. That article and his eight typewritten pages on the Nationalist Chinese army led *Life* to hire him late that year. Rowan writes: "*Life*, my new employer, was at that time the world's greatest visual communicator.... 'Picture magic,' is how [founder **Henry Luce** referred to *Life*'s power and influence which then far exceeded television's. ...So unlike in my UNRRA days, I was now backed by an organization with an almost magical aura. It was a heady feeling appearing at some important event and saying, 'I'm from *Life* magazine.'"

His first *Life* assignment was covering China's civil war, which he recounts in his eighth book, "Chasing the Dragon: A Veteran Journalist's Firsthand Account of the 1949 Chinese Revolution" [Guilford, Connecticut: Lyons Press]. The book is illustrated with 51 photos taken by the author and OPC member **Jack Birns**, his *Life* colleague. Rowan, OPC president 1998-2000, describes the civil war leaders, Communist Chairman Mao Zedong and Nationalist Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, this way: "Mao knew that

changing China would cost many lives. 'A revolution is no invitation to a banquet,' he once declared. And his men followed loyally, fought fiercely, even died when asked to for what they hoped would be the end of tyranny. Yet, despite his strong ideology, Mao remained a genuine romantic, with the ability to arouse fervent popular devotion. That was his strength. Chiang Kai-shek was perhaps just as strong a leader. But with a different vision for modernizing China, he never succeeded in arousing popular devotion. That was his failure." Seasoned with the sights, sounds and smells of China, Rowan's book is a history that could only be written by one who was there.

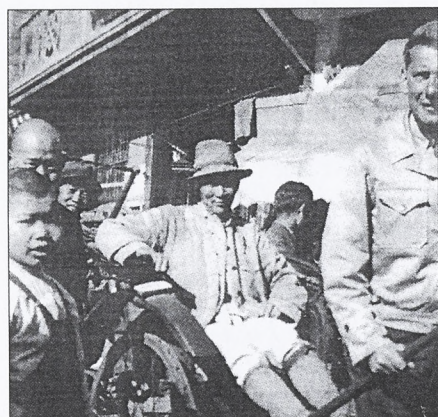
MIDDLE EAST

CRAIG Unger, a former deputy editor of *The New York Observer* who has written for *The New Yorker*, *Esquire* and *Vanity Fair*, contends that U.S. policy toward Saudi Arabia is shaped by the Bush family's financial ties with the Saudi royals. He lays out this premise in "House of Bush, House of Saud: The Secret Relationship Between the World's



Crown Prince Abdullah with President Bush at the ranch in Texas, April 2002

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Roy Rowan trades places with a rickshaw man, Shanghai 1946.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS IN A POST 9/11 WORLD

Panel led by
Nicholas Lemann
Dean of Columbia
Journalism School

Tuesday, September 14
at 5:30pm
at Club Quarters
40 West 45 Street

RSVP: 212-626-9220

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